

CLAIMS

1. A bearing comprising a frame (2) at least partly surrounding two matrices (12, 16), each of a plurality of spheres (10, 14), each matrix when flat having its spheres mounted for rotation in substantially a single planar or at least part spherical plane, the plane of one matrix being parallel to that of the other matrix, the spheres of one matrix located so as to lie at least mostly against the spheres of the other matrix so that rotation of spheres of one matrix results in counter rotation of spheres of the other matrix, characterised in that the spheres of the one matrix are arranged to project from one side of the frame and the spheres of the other matrix are arranged to project from the opposite side of the frame, the spheres of each matrix being constrained to be retained in the same relative position with respect to the frame during rotation.
- 15 2. A bearing according to claim 1 wherein the spheres are between 25 mm and 15 mm in diameter.
- 20 3. A bearing according to claim 1 or 2 further comprising an inflatable platform (22) arranged to be detachably joined to the bearing.
4. A bearing according to claim 3 wherein the inflatable platform is provided with detachable poles (26) disposable on either side of the platform and so arranged for carrying the platform.
- 25 5. A bearing according to claim 1 wherein the spheres are between 2.5 and 7.5 mm in diameter.
6. A bearing according to claim 1 or 5 wherein the spheres are woven into each matrix (Figures 5 and 6).
- 30 7. A bearing as claimed in claim 1 wherein the matrices are curved in one or more planes.